GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2551
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
USE OF FIREWORKS DURING DIWALI IN A & N ISLANDS
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there has been a hue and cry regarding use of fire works to celebrate Diwali in the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be achieved by the Union Government from imposing ban on the use of fire works in Andaman & Nicobar Islands?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI)

(a): There was no hue and cry amongst the public regarding use of fire works to celebrate Diwali in Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): There were reports of illegal stocking/over stocking of fire crackers for making quick money during the festival season. Since traders who usually apply for licence to store and sell crackers in their shops also sell other inflammable items, there are serious threats of accidental fire. UT Administration had, therefore, conducted searches at various shops/godowns to minimize the risk.

In view of these precautionary measures the festival of Diwali passed off peacefully in the Union Territory without any major fire incident.